



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Pennsylvania

# Crop Progress & Condition

King Whetstone, Regional Director

4050 Crums Mill Rd. Ste. 203, Harrisburg, PA 17112

Phone: 717-787-3904 Fax: 855-270-2719

[www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa)

Week ending May 17, 2015

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

[nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov)

Released May 18, 2015

**Good Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 5.5 days suitable for field work last week. Dry weather allowed for farmers to catch up on field activities. Temperatures averaged in the mid 60's, with a high of 92 (°F) and a low of 28 (°F). Despite the dry weather, half the state reported adequate topsoil moisture and three quarters reported adequate subsoil moisture. Corn and soybeans continue to be planted and some of the earliest is now emerging. Fruits are progressing nicely with some thinning already occurring. This week's field activities will include planting oats, corn, potatoes, and soybeans and cutting hay and haylage.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 17, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	2	40	54	4
SUBSOIL	0	26	73	1

## Crop Conditions as of May 17, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	0	40	60
BARLEY	0	4	7	41	48
CHERRIES	0	0	0	34	66
OATS	0	0	5	71	24
PASTURE AND RANGE	4	6	18	52	20
PEACHES	0	0	0	45	55

## Crop Progress as of May 17, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
OATS: PLANTED	92	79	88	90
OATS: EMERGED	77	45	65	70
APPLES: PINK	74	60	88	N/A
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	60	48	85	N/A
CHERRIES: GREEN TIP	60	53	92	N/A
CHERRIES: FULL BLOOM	55	50	92	N/A
CORN: PLANTED	72	44	48	57
CORN: EMERGED	39	6	13	21
PEACHES: PINK	61	42	82	N/A
PEACHES: FULL BLOOM	59	41	81	N/A
SOYBEANS: PLANTED	40	18	15	27
SOYBEANS: EMERGED	13	N/A	N/A	7
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	90	82	64	N/A
TOBACCONT: SEEDED	42	31	N/A	N/A
POTATOES: PLANTED	47	12	44	58
WINTER WHEAT: HEADED	12	N/A	5	45
BARLEY: HEADED	39	20	65	77
BARLEY: COLORING	7	N/A	N/A	18
HAY, ALFALFA: FIRST CUTTING	17	N/A	5	22
HAY, OTHER: FIRST CUTTING	7	N/A	N/A	6

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oc/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oc/weather) and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

## May 17, 2015 Pennsylvania Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
Region	Station	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
		Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest	Clarion	88	34	62	+6	0.69	3	5.42	-0.50	24	256	+133	601
	Erie	85	36	62	+5	0.80	3	4.73	-0.36	22	289	+140	618
	Franklin_AG	89	36	62	+6	1.49	5	7.00	+1.38	26	303	+163	660
	Meadville-Port	84	35	62	+8	0.63	4	4.97	-0.32	22	337	+221	705
	Springboro	84	32	59	+4	0.68	4	5.10	+0.33	28	231	+113	545
	Titusville	87	33	58	+4	1.06	4	5.41	-0.47	18	195	+99	522
	Warren	88	36	61	+6	1.24	4	6.30	+0.56	25	254	+130	590
North Central	Bradford_Region	86	28	60	+8	0.57	5	5.94	+0.50	25	222	+140	528
	Coudersport_1SW	87	31	59	+6	0.74	4	6.42	+1.51	22	176	+75	461
	Kane	86	33	60	+9	0.94	5	6.04	+0.09	22	193	+133	483
	Laporte	79	35	59	+6	0.61	3	5.85	+0.48	24	205	+111	503
	Lock_Haven	89	36	65	+7	0.62	2	5.76	+0.59	18	311	+141	686
	Oswayo	86	29	59	+6	0.74	5	5.00	+0.20	24	175	+96	463
	Renovo	89	37	63	+5	0.68	3	6.12	+1.15	19	289	+109	657
	Ridgway	88	32	61	+8	1.38	3	6.11	+0.41	22	230	+148	555
	Stevenson_Dam	89	36	62	+6	1.61	3	7.27	+2.00	20	247	+126	584
	Towanda	87	35	62	+6	1.72	3	7.16	+2.27	23	248	+113	580
	Wellsboro	85	32	60	+7	0.61	4	5.37	+1.38	22	205	+125	513
	Williamsport_AP	86	38	67	+8	0.33	3	5.18	-0.34	19	383	+194	767
Northeast	Hawley	85	32	61	+7	0.47	2	4.15	-1.77	16	193	+101	510
	Milanville	89	32	63	+8	0.85	3	4.27	-1.65	20	236	+144	550
	Susquehanna	85	34	62	+6	0.80	4	5.91	-0.23	22	221	+100	545
	Wilkes-Barre	87	37	67	+8	0.20	2	3.52	-1.75	17	376	+194	754
West Central	Butler	87	34	61	+6	0.51	3	5.71	-0.06	22	288	+163	645
	New_Castle_Ag	92	37	65	+8	0.73	3	5.73	+0.60	23	346	+191	731
	Slippery_Rock	86	35	63	+8	0.63	4	4.85	-0.65	22	335	+234	706
Central	Altoona_AP	84	35	64	+7	0.33	2	4.02	-1.27	19	361	+175	743
	Du_Bois	87	36	64	+9	0.29	3	4.84	-0.48	20	364	+238	739
	Elizabethville	91	39	65	+7	0.31	2	4.56	-1.08	17	350	+175	743
	Lewistown	88	40	65	+6	0.62	1	4.27	-1.11	20	349	+142	745
	Middletown	87	46	70	+9	0.69	2	2.99	-2.77	15	467	+193	885
	Prince_Gallitzi	85	32	64	+7	0.39	3	4.41	-0.92	20	294	+160	657
	Selinsgrove_2S	88	37	64	+7	0.71	3	3.63	-2.01	19	301	+126	676
	State_College_P	85	39	64	+7	0.20	3	5.92	+0.84	21	325	+160	703
East Central	Allentown-Bethl	87	39	67	+9	0.05	2	2.02	-3.88	14	387	+203	782
	Lehighton	84	42	65	+8	0.11	3	3.37	-3.15	15	292	+154	660
	Mt_Pocono	81	35	62	+10	0.15	1	3.82	-3.02	18	235	+174	573
Southwest	Pittsburgh_Alle	87	40	65	+8	0.47	4	5.31	+0.04	22	458	+300	866
	Chalk_Hill	86	37	63	+7	0.64	3	6.34	-1.59	23	324	+174	719
	Connellsville_A	91	38	65	+7	0.81	2	6.64	+0.54	22	389	+197	796
	Indiana_3SE	90	36	62	+5	0.91	2	7.01	+0.90	23	294	+116	671
	Meyersdale	83	33	59	+4	0.22	3	4.57	-2.04	21	212	+99	548
	Pittsburgh_Intl	88	38	66	+7	1.31	3	5.45	+0.46	21	451	+241	859
	Waynesburg	89	35	63	+6	0.25	3	6.62	+1.11	20	352	+182	741
South Central	Biglerville	88	44	67	+9	0.41	1	4.18	-1.87	13	404	+226	815
	Everett	86	31	61	+4	0.28	3	4.74	-0.70	20	242	+82	605
	Hanover	87	45	67	+7	0.10	1	2.36	-3.06	16	373	+107	780
	Harrisburg_AP	86	43	69	+8	0.31	1	3.80	-1.96	14	453	+179	863
	South_Mountain	80	34	63	+2	0.17	1	3.03	-3.69	16	282	+14	649
	York_AP	88	38	66	+6	0.61	1	2.75	-3.04	13	385	+116	781
Southeast	Doylestown_AG	84	44	66	+5	0.55	2	2.37	-4.15	12	366	+81	763
	Green_Lane	84	43	67	+8	0.48	1	2.71	-3.34	12	363	+174	762
	Hamburg	85	45	67	+7	0.14	2	3.49	-2.65	16	362	+156	751
	Lancaster_AP	85	42	67	+7	0.84	1	2.74	-2.86	15	386	+156	787
	Neshaminy_Falls	86	45	68	+9	0.34	2	3.81	-2.80	13	408	+184	818
	New_Holland	86	42	68	+9	0.20	2	2.11	-4.39	15	449	+257	872
	Philadelphia_AP	88	50	71	+9	0.34	1	4.01	-1.65	14	532	+222	973
	Philadelphia_NE	87	47	70	+10	0.06	1	3.43	-3.18	13	517	+293	951
	Reading_AP	87	42	68	+8	0.11	1	1.87	-4.23	12	431	+194	837
	Sellersville	84	42	66	+7	0.42	1	2.66	-4.13	13	331	+126	711
	West_Chester	86	42	66	+6	0.21	1	2.54	-3.62	16	359	+113	745

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2015: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### **ADAMS County, Judy A. Behney**

Adams County had a nice week for fieldwork however we need some moisture for the crops to get started and continue to progress. Monday and Tuesday started in the low 70's and got to 86 and humid daytime. Tuesdays night very, very light shower but no accumulation. Wednesday morning was 50 degrees and only in the 60's and Thursday morning was 38 and got to 60 degrees and today started out as 50 degrees and cloudy. Saturday afternoon some rain from a thunderstorm some parts of York Springs .25" and other areas over 1 inch. Sunday evening York Springs received 1 inch of rainfall during a thunderstorm. Corn and soybeans continue to be planted and some of the earliest is now emerging. Producers are concerned about how dry it how effective the spray will work and even the crops if they will germinate. Ryelage and tritacale are being chopped for forage. Wheat and barley continue to grow and some wheat that wasn't looking too good over winter is now looking better with the heat we received beginning of the week. Still a fair amount of corn and soybeans to be planted but had a pretty good run here past two weeks. Hay continues to grow and getting some height but some areas the hay is going to be short in height. Fruit crops continue to be doing well at this time. Producers busy spraying for conditions as they become apparent and with the help of Penn State Fruit Lab's reports. Vegetables continue to be planted and some veggies grown in high tunnels are being harvested now. Strawberries will be harvested around Memorial Day in the county. Overall the producers are putting in long days to try to get crops planted while the weather is cooperating but all of the crops could benefit with a little moisture.

### **ADAMS County, Thomas Kerr**

Some areas got a shower on Saturday, the first rain in two weeks for some. Almost all the full season corn now planted. Busy week for cutting haylage. Yields are showing up slightly lower than normal. Fruit crops now past bloom with no weather issues, but there could still be problems related to the cold winter.

### **ADAMS County, Lee Showalter**

All fruit is past bloom. Growers are now actively thinning most apple varieties. Peach and apple sets look good at this time.

### **CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little**

Activities included planting oats, corn, potatoes, and soybeans.

### **CENTRE County, Dick A Decker**

Great week for field work. Overnight showers resulted in 1/2 inch for the week. Corn is up and hay will soon be ready for 1st cutting.

### **COLUMBIA County, John O. Yocum**

Received 0.5"+ rain, but need more as surface will dry out quickly.

### **JUNIATA/SNYDER Counties, William Sheaffer**

A good week for field activities. However, rain is needed. Heat and high winds have dried the soil to a much needed level. All crops that have emerged are looking good. Activities include planting, making hay and haylage.

### **LANCASTER County, Jeff Graybill**

Spotty showers Saturday and Sunday brought anywhere from 2.0 inches to nearly nothing to the county. Rye harvest about complete and Alfalfa starting this week.

### **LANCASTER County, Chris Burkhart**

The dry weather has allowed a lot of field work to get done and forages to be cut. Farmers are busy getting rye & tritacal in and are getting ready to start transplanting tobacco.

### **LEBANON County, Charlene Ziegler**

Another dry week. The flow in streams and creeks has diminished by half just as an example of how dry it has been. Planting corn and soybeans has been put on hold by some farmers until we get rain. Alfalfa was cut for haylage.

### **MONTGOMERY County, Andrew Frankenfield**

When is it going to rain? That's the question everyone wants to know. Some farmers are done planting corn and others are done soybeans. Concerns with not enough moisture on tilled ground some farmers opted to stop planting. Some rain fell Saturday evening 0.1"-0.5" across the county helped a little. Rye is being cut for straw and hay making will get underway after the front passes early this week. Grass hay crop looks short for first cutting and hay supply is very low in the area.

### **SOMERSET County, Dale Kriner**

Planting was going full speed until the gully washer rains arrived on Saturday afternoon. My rain gauge was packed away because we were moving so the rainfall total was A LOT of rain. Some parts of the county really needed it, others had had some showers previously and were still OK on moisture.

### **WESTMORELAND County, Thomas Sierzega**

Wide range of weather conditions this week. Hot and dry early (90's), frost on Wednesday and rain at end of week. Spring planting in full swing with corn and beans, some small grain being cut for silos and hay growth rapidly advancing.